

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

21. (Currently amended) A replaceable ink container assembly for use in an ink jet printer, the ink container assembly comprising:

a container configured to hold ink;

a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed to the container, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled; and

wherein the first coupling component is configured to mate with a complimentary second coupling component of the duplex coupler, the second coupling component being formed to of a reservoir of the ink jet printer in a gravity feed configuration, so as to mitigate leakage of ink.

22. (Previously Submitted) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to be at least partially inserted into the second coupling component.

23. (Currently amended) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to facilitate a flow of ink there through if coupled with the complimentary second coupling component formed on the reservoir with ~~when the reservoir is formed~~ being positioned below the second coupling component and wherein said reservoir has a floor ~~so as to have a base~~ which is substantially flat ~~where ink enters the reservoir.~~

24. (Currently amended) An ink jet printer comprising:
a container configured to hold ink;

a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed to the container, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled;

a reservoir configured to receive ink from the container in a gravity feed configuration;

a complimentary second coupling component of the duplex coupler formed to the reservoir; and

wherein the first coupling component is configured to mate with the second coupling component, so as to mitigate leakage of ink.

25. (Previously Submitted) The ink jet printer as recited in claim 24, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to be at least partially inserted into the second coupling component.

26. (Currently amended) The ink jet printer as recited in claim 24, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to facilitate a flow of ink there through if coupled with the complimentary second coupling component formed on the reservoir with ~~when the reservoir is formed~~ being positioned below the second coupling component and wherein said reservoir has a floor ~~so as to have a base~~ which is substantially flat ~~where ink enters the reservoir~~.

27. (Currently amended) A method for operating an ink jet printer, the method comprising:

providing a container configured to hold ink, the container having a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed thereto, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled;

providing a reservoir configured in a gravity feed arrangement to receive ink from the container, the reservoir having a complimentary second coupling component of the duplex coupler formed thereto; and facilitating a flow of ink from the container to the reservoir through the duplex connector.

28. (Previously Submitted) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to be at least partially inserted into the second coupling component.

29. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the first coupling component is configured so as to facilitate a flow of ink there through if coupled with the complimentary second coupling component formed on the reservoir with ~~when the reservoir is formed~~ being positioned below the second coupling component and wherein said reservoir has a floor so as to have a base which is substantially flat ~~where ink enters the reservoir~~.

30. (New) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 23 wherein the floor has a pitch to it to urge ink towards an exit port.

31. (New) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 30 wherein a line in fluid communication with the port directs ink flowing through the port to a pump which then directs the ink to at least one print head.

32. (New) The ink jet printer as recited in claim 26 wherein the floor has a pitch to it to urge ink towards an exit port.

33. (New) The ink jet printer as recited in claim 26 further including a line in fluid communication with the port to thereby direct ink flowing through the port to

a pump which then directs the ink to at least one print head.

34. (New) The method as recited in claim 29 including the further step of putting a pitch in the floor of the reservoir to thereby direct ink in the reservoir to a port.

35. (New) The method as recited in claim 34 including the further step of attaching a line in fluid communication to the port to thereby direct ink to a pump which pumps the ink to at least one print head.

36. (New) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein the gravity feed configuration comprises: the container positioned above the reservoir with the first coupling component connected to the second coupling component of the ink reservoir, the reservoir having a substantially flat floor with a downward pitch towards an exit port at lower part of the reservoir; so that ink in the container will flow out of the container through the coupled duplex coupler and into the reservoir and out of the exit port.

37. (New) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 36 wherein the exit port has a fluid line attached to it to direct ink to at least one print head.

38. (New) The replaceable ink container assembly as recited in claim 37 wherein the fluid line includes a pump to force ink flowing through the exit port to at least one print head.

39. (New) The ink printer as recited in claim 24 wherein the gravity feed configuration comprises: the container positioned above the reservoir with first

coupling component connected to the second coupling component of the ink reservoir, the reservoir having a substantially flat floor with a downward pitch towards an exit port at a lower part of the reservoir, the exit port having a first end of fluid line connected to it and a second end of the fluid line being connected to at least one print head; so that ink in the container will flow out of the container through the coupled duplex coupler and into the reservoir and out of the exit port wherein the fluid line directs the ink to the at least one print head.

40. (New) The ink printer as recited in claim 39 wherein the fluid line includes a pump to force ink flowing through the exit port to the at least a one print head.